

lines 10-21; page 64, lines 2 and 11; and page 52, line 25. New claims 36-42 and 49 are supported at page 11, lines 16-19. New claims 43 and 50 are supported at page 36, lines 17-23. No new matter is added.

Applicants note that the claims 27-44 have previously been presented to the Examiner in the Amendments filed on October 15, 1998 and on March 10, 1999, but they were not entered. As suggested by the Examiner in the Communication dated April 9, 1999, Applicants include new claims 27-50 in the present preliminary amendment which is filed concurrently with a continuation prosecution application based on the above-captioned application.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments and remarks be entered and made of record in the file history of the application. An early allowance is earnestly requested. If any issues remain in connection herewith, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Date June 2, 1999

Laura A. Coruzzi by: *X. [Signature]* ^{40,258}

Laura A. Coruzzi _{30,742}
(Reg. No.)

PENNIE & EDMONDS LLP
1155 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036-2711
(212) 790-9090

Enclosures